NOTICE OF EXEMPTION

TO: Office of Planning and Research 1400 Tenth Street, Room 222 P.O. Box 3044 Sacramento, CA 95814 FROM: Department of Parks and Recreation 1416 Ninth Street P.O. Box 942896 Sacramento, CA 94296-0001

PROJECT TITLE: Staircase Replacement – Geotechnical & Archaeological Investigations

LOCATION: Point Dume SB/NP

COUNTY: Angeles

DESCRIPTION OF THE NATURE AND PURPOSE OF PROJECT:

The existing steel staircase at Point Dume SP is deteriorated, functionally substandard and in need of replacement. This project consists of geotechnical studies and archaeological investigations that will inform and corroborate the selection of a preferred location for a new replacement staircase (to be covered in a separate, future PEF).

Archaeological testing will be done to determine if archaeological deposits extend into the project areas including the location of the new staircase landing, the trails being used for access, the project staging area, and other areas of potential effect. Work will include excavation of approximately 60-80 hand-excavated auger holes (ca. 10cm diameter and minimum of 50cm deep) across and around the project areas. State Archaeologists will work with Environmental Scientists to ensure avoidance of significant impacts to sensitive plants and/or habitat. A Chumash monitor will be present for all archaeological testing work.

PUBLIC AGENCY APPROVING THE PROJECT: California Department of Parks and Recreation NAME OF DIVISION OR DISTRICT CARRYING OUT THE PROJECT: Angeles

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□Declared I	Emergency (Section 15269(a))	
\square Emergend	cy Project (Section 15269(b) and (c)	1)
☐ Statutory I	Exemption	•
⊠ Categorica	al Exemption	
Class: 6	Section(s): 15306	

REASONS WHY PROJECT IS EXEMPT: No potential for significant impact to the environment is anticipated in compliance with CEQA §15300.2. If the project is implemented as indicated within the project description including conditions provided by CDPR specialists, then it is exempt under CEQA §15306 – Information Collection. The action falls under the Departmental List of Exempt activities according to CEQA §15300.4 as:

 "Soils and structural engineering tests" and "Archaeological investigations by Department staff" (Class 6, Section 15306)

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DPR 508 (Rev. 4/2003) (Word 4/4/2003)